

3 NATIONS COVID-19 DAILY UPDATE – 31 July 2020

The information contained in this report is based on recent updates and current information available at the time the report was finalized. It is not inclusive of all actions or measures taken to date by health officials federally, provincially or locally.

COVID-19 CASE COUNTS

STATUS OF CASES IN BC¹	As of July 29	As of July 31	Change
Total confirmed cases in BC	3,562	3,641	79*
Currently in intensive care	2	2	0
Total deaths in BC	194	195	1
Total recovered in BC	3,109	3,168	59
Currently hospitalized in BC	6	5	-1

CONFIRMED CASES BY REGION²	As of July 29	As of July 31	Change
Vancouver Coastal Health	1,071	1,088	17
Fraser Health	1,846	1,889	43
Island Health	143	144	1
Interior Health	356	369	13
Northern Health	86	88	2
Total confirmed cases in BC	3,562	3,641	79*
Total individuals tested in BC	258,368	265,004	3264**

STATUS OF CASES IN YUKON³	As of July 29	As of July 31	Change
Total individuals tested	1,547	1,612	24
Total confirmed cases	14	14	0
Recovered cases	11	11	0
Negative results	1,499	1,562	63
Pending results	34	36	2

*The BC Government reported 39 new COVID-19 cases July 29th, 29 cases July 30th and 50 cases July 31st (118 Total).

** The BCCDC has reported 3,264 new tests but this does not align with the difference in total test numbers between July 29th and July 31st

¹ <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

² <https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/a6f23959a8b14bfa989e3cda29297ded>

³ <https://yukon.ca/covid-19>

STATUS OF FIRST NATION RESERVE CASES IN CANADA⁴	As of July 28	As of July 30	Change
Total confirmed cases	395	404	9
Currently hospitalized	32	32	0
Total deaths	6	6	0
Total recovered	348	350	2
Total confirmed cases in BC	57	64	7

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

- Today, the BC government and Coastal First Nations have signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to continue and expand their work to protect the environment and boost the regional economy, as a response to impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic.⁵
 - The new agreement outlines a long-term vision for B.C.'s mid- and northern coastal areas, guided by a shared belief in reconciliation, fiscal self-reliance and a collective responsibility to manage the natural environment in the face of climate change.
 - Under the MOU, the Province and Coastal First Nations agree to pursue a conservation-based regional economy through a diverse set of initiatives to promote financial self-reliance. Initiatives include:
 - Climate change and conservation
 - Land and marine stewardship, including long-term marine use plans for B.C.'s north Pacific coast
 - Economic development
 - Connectivity and high-speed digital access.
 - This MOU provides a framework for continuing to protect the environment and increased economic development opportunities for Coastal First Nations communities.

⁴ <https://www.sac-isc.gc.ca/eng/1581964230816/1581964277298>

⁵ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020IRR0039-001440>

- Today, the BC Government provided an update on the health and safety guidance that will allow post-secondary institutions to operate in the Fall 2020 Academic Term:⁶
 - For the fall 2020 academic term, education and skills training will be delivered using a variety of formats, while protecting the health and safety of students, faculty and staff.
 - Larger classes will be offered primarily through remote delivery.
 - Where health and safety permits, in-person instruction will be delivered on-campus to support essential experiential learning, graduate education and work-integrated learning.
 - Some courses will be delivered using a blend of on-campus and online instruction with theory delivered remotely, and some hands-on learning components delivered on-campus.
 - Students are encouraged to visit their post-secondary institution's website for the latest course delivery information.
 - Further information on post-secondary health and safety guidelines in BC during the COVID-19 pandemic can be found here:
<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/post-secondary-education/institution-resources-administration/studying-during-covid-19>
- On July 30th, the Minister of Public Safety and Solicitor General, Mike Farnworth, restricted non-resident travel to Haida Gwaii to protect communities:⁷
 - The decision was made in a government-to-government collaboration with Council of the Haida Nation, Skidegate Band Council, Old Massett Village Council and local governments, in consultation with the provincial health officer.
 - Dr. Bonnie Henry stated: “This order will help the Province ensure resources are in place to protect public health and safety as Haida Gwaii works to contain this outbreak. These measures are part of a swift, effective and co-ordinated public health response that includes prioritized testing, thorough contact tracing, and prioritized travel to and from the community,”.
 - There are currently 20 cases associated with the outbreak on Haida Gwaii. According to Northern Health, all cases are believed to be related to residents who have travelled off-island, or who had contact with a resident who has travelled off-island.
 - Travel to Haida Gwaii will continue to be permitted, subject to the approval of the collective Haida Gwaii communities, for:
 - The delivery of essential goods and supplies
 - Medical appointments
 - Urgent or emergency family matters
 - The provision of essential services as defined by the unified command structure comprised of the Council of the Haida Nation, village councils and local governments.

⁶<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/education-training/post-secondary-education/institution-resources-administration/studying-during-covid-19>

⁷ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020PSSG0041-001429>

- On July 30th, the BC Government announced that families in the city of Terrace will have access to more than a hundred new licensed child care spaces as part of the Province’s ongoing commitment to increase child care through the COVID-19 pandemic and beyond.⁸
 - “The board of education recognizes the need for additional child care spaces and extends its appreciation to the Ministry of Children and Family Development for approval of this joint application between Coast Mountain Children’s Society and Coast Mountains School District 82. Working jointly with the community to address issues such as child care is a priority for the school district,” said Janet Meyer, superintendent of Schools, Coast Mountains School District 82.
 - The mechanical and overall design improvements of ET Kenney Primary school will ensure a healthy and safe environment is provided to children, while taking part in the before and after-school programs and daily child care.
 - The indoor play spaces will ensure children have many healthy activities with adequate space to be safe, no matter what time of year or challenges the outside weather brings.
- On July 30th, Dr. Henry and Adrian Dix shared the following information on community exposures of COVID-19 in BC:⁹
 - “There continues to be additional community exposure events throughout the province. A full listing of community exposure events related to flights and others within each health authority is available through the BC Centre for Disease Control, as well as on health authority websites.”
 - “A reminder that the consumption of fruit from a location where people are confirmed to have COVID-19 is safe. However, people are reminded to always wash fruits and vegetables before consumption.”
 - “It is easy to socialize safely and that’s what we all need to do this B.C. Day weekend. To do this, let’s keep our groups small and keep a safe distance from others, no matter where we may be.”
 - “The actions you take make a difference, so let’s make this holiday a different holiday than what we saw in early July. What you do today and this weekend will determine what we are able to do in the weeks ahead – so let’s all do the right thing.”

⁸ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020CFD0089-001422>

⁹ <https://news.gov.bc.ca/releases/2020HLTH0236-001441>

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES IN YUKON TERRITORY

- Today, the Yukon Government announced the immediate offering of internships to study the impact of COVID-19, which will benefit Yukon organizations and post-secondary students:¹⁰
 - Yukon businesses, not-for-profit organizations and municipalities can apply to be matched with post-secondary students who will research COVID-19's impact on their operations and help develop plans to overcome those challenges. In return, students will gain high-quality work experience in the field of applied research.
 - This program will support research to improve Yukon's understanding of the social, cultural, economic, environmental and health impacts of the pandemic, including direct and indirect impacts on businesses, communities or individuals.
 - Relevant, local and high-quality research will help support eligible organizations with their recovery planning and decision making, and better equip them to manage for the future.
 - The internships are offered through a partnership between the Government of Yukon, Yukon University, University of Alberta North and Mitacs. Mitacs, a national not-for-profit applied research and training organization, will administer the internships and provide a significant share of the program funding, with support from the Government of Canada.
 - There are 25 four-to-six-month internships available. Students will receive a \$15,000 award per internship unit, with a minimum \$10,000 stipend and up to \$5,000 for research support costs. Host organizations are responsible for 25% of that, with the remainder coming from the Government of Yukon, YukonU and Mitacs.
 - Full-time post-secondary college, undergraduate and graduate students, as well as post-doctoral fellows, are eligible for these internships.
 - Eligible host organizations include businesses, non-profit organizations, hospitals, foundations and municipalities. To be eligible, either the student, the host organization or the associated academic institution must be based in Yukon.
 - Students or host organizations that would like more information can contact Mitacs at cloring@mitacs.ca or twiltzen@mitacs.ca. For information about the research priorities for this initiative, contact Yukon's Office of the Science Advisor at osa@gov.yk.ca.

¹⁰ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/yukon-offers-internships-study-impact-covid-19>

- On July 30th, the Council of Yukon First Nations (CYFN) and the Government of Yukon announced a joint campaign that addresses some of the indirect and unforeseen consequences to children and families of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹¹
 - Family violence, substance use and child maltreatment may have increased within families due to an array of factors such as the reduction in child care, social isolation and general anxiety due to the pandemic.
 - To support families who may feel overwhelmed by the new demands, CYFN and the Government of Yukon are promoting their services in a joint advertising and social marketing campaign.
 - The campaign invites community members to call Yukon Family and Children’s Services if they are concerned for the safety or well-being of a child or youth.
 - “We also want to remind Yukoners that caring for children and youth is a collective responsibility, if you have concerns about a child in your community, please share them with us.” - Pauline Frost, Minister of Health and Social Services
 - Yukon Health and Social Services: <https://www.facebook.com/yukonhss/>

LATEST ADVICE AND MEASURES FROM THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA

- Today, the Government of Canada released a COVID-19 Update for Indigenous Peoples and communities.¹²
 - As of July 30, Indigenous Services Canada is aware of these confirmed cases of COVID-19 for First Nations on reserve in provinces:
 - 404 confirmed positive cases of COVID-19
 - 32 hospitalizations
 - 350 recovered cases
 - Indigenous peoples and communities must remain vigilant in employing measures to protect themselves, their families and communities.
 - While many provinces and territories are at varying stages of re-opening, we must continue to take precautions to prevent the spread of COVID-19 by limiting the size of group gatherings and continue to maintain physical distancing of at least 2 arms-length from others (approximately 2 meters or 6 feet).
 - Additionally, individuals can help by:
 - Avoiding all non-essential trips in the community.
 - Limiting contact with people at higher risk, such as Elders, those in poor health, or with underlying health conditions.
 - Wearing a non-medical mask when physical distancing is not possible.
 - Following the recommended public health guidelines outlined by your province of residence.

¹¹ <https://yukon.ca/en/news/joint-initiative-reaches-out-families-and-children-crisis>

¹² <https://www.canada.ca/en/indigenous-services-canada/news/2020/07/government-of-canada-covid-19-update-for-indigenous-peoples-and-communities.html>

- Today, Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and the Premier of Ontario, Doug Ford, announced that COVID Alert, a new national mobile app, is now available to Canadians for free download.¹³
 - The app helps notify users if they may have been exposed to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19.
 - Once the app is fully functioning in their province or territory, users who test positive for COVID-19 will receive a one-time key from their health authority that they can enter into the app.
 - When the key is entered, COVID Alert will notify other users who may have come in close contact with that person for at least 15 minutes in the past 14 days, so they can contact their local public health authority for guidance.
 - The app uses strong measures to protect any data it collects, and does not track a user's location or collect personally identifiable information.
 - The Privacy Commissioners of Canada and Ontario were consulted on the development of COVID Alert, to ensure the highest level of privacy for Canadians using the app.
- Today, Finance Minister Bill Morneau announced that the Canada Emergency Commercial Rent Assistance (CECRA) will be extended by one month to help eligible small businesses pay rent for August.¹⁴
 - This extension will help provide Canadian small businesses most impacted by the COVID-19 shutdown with an extended bridge to recovery.
 - Across the country, thousands of small businesses who were forced to close or were especially hard hit have been able to use CECRA to help cover rent and position themselves to stay open and grow their revenues as the economy reopens.
 - As of July 30, 2020, 63,000 small business tenants have been supported, representing over 616,000 employees, for a total of over \$613 million in rent support.
 - Additionally, CMHC is working with large property owners to help provide CECRA to more than 20,000 small businesses.
- Today, Canada's Minister of Natural Resources, Seamus O'Regan, announced a \$300,000 initiative to develop low-cost, non-surgical, disposable face masks for civilians and industrial workers to support Canada's COVID-19 response.¹⁵
 - Pulp Moulded Products Incorporated will create the prototype for the face masks using Canadian wood pulp, made of responsibly harvested wood fibre.
 - The mask production and supply chain will be 100% Canadian, eliminating dependency on imports for the production of non-medical masks.

¹³ <https://pm.gc.ca/en/news/news-releases/2020/07/31/new-mobile-app-help-notify-canadians-potential-covid-19-exposure-now>

¹⁴ <https://www.canada.ca/en/department-finance/news/2020/07/government-announces-new-extension-of-rent-relief-for-small-businesses.html>

¹⁵ <https://www.canada.ca/en/natural-resources-canada/news/2020/07/new-prototype-face-mask-using-canadian-wood-pulp-to-support-canadas-covid-19-response.html>

- Today, Carla Qualtrough, Minister of Employment, Workforce Development and Disability Inclusion and Marie-Claude Bibeau, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food, announced that the Government of Canada is taking action to reduce the incidence and impact of COVID-19 outbreaks on farms.¹⁶
 - The Government is investing \$58.6 million to strengthen the TFW Program and safeguard the health and safety of Canadian and temporary foreign workers from COVID-19.

- On July 30th, the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) announced that as of July 31, 2020, stricter rules will be imposed for foreign nationals transiting through Canada to Alaska for non-discretionary purpose:¹⁷
 - These measures are put in place to further reduce the risk of introduction of COVID-19 cases and to minimize the amount of time that in-transit travellers are in Canada. More specifically, in-transit foreign nationals:
 - Must enter Canada at one of the five identified CBSA ports of entry (POE).
 - Abbotsford-Huntingdon (British Columbia)
 - Coutts (Alberta)
 - Kingsgate (British Columbia)
 - North Portal (Saskatchewan)
 - Osoyoos (British Columbia)
 - Will be allowed a reasonable period of stay to carry out the transit.
 - Will be limited to travel within Canada using the most direct route from the POE to the intended POE of exit, while avoiding all national parks, leisure sites and tourism activities.
 - Will be required, before entering the U.S., to report to the nearest CBSA POE to confirm their exit from Canada.
 - In-transit travellers will be issued a vehicle “hang tag” to be attached to their rear view mirror for the duration of their trip to or from Alaska to support compliance while they are in Canada.
 - The front of the tag will make it clear that the travellers are transiting and include the date they must depart Canada.
 - The back of the tag will remind travellers to comply with all conditions imposed upon entry and the Quarantine and Emergencies Acts and a list of public health and safety measures to follow.
 - No matter the reason for travel, all foreign nationals who have COVID-19 or exhibit any signs or symptoms of COVID-19 will not be allowed to enter Canada.
 - Providing false information to a BSO may lead to consequences such as being denied entry and/or banned from returning to Canada.

¹⁶<https://www.canada.ca/en/employment-social-development/news/2020/07/government-of-canada-invests-in-measures-to-boost-protections-for-temporary-foreign-workers-and-address-covid-19-outbreaks-on-farms.html>

¹⁷<https://www.canada.ca/en/border-services-agency/news/2020/07/covid-19-stricter-rules-for-foreign-nationals-transiting-through-canada-to-alaska.html>

- On July 30th, Dr. Theresa Tam, Canada’s Chief Public Health Officer, provided the following update on COVID-19 in Canada¹⁸:
 - To date, there have been 115,470 cases of COVID-19 in Canada, including 8,917 deaths.
 - 87% of people have now recovered.
 - Labs across Canada have tested 3,946,565 people for COVID-19.
 - Over the past week, an average of 40,665 people were tested daily, with 1% testing positive and an average of 461 cases being reported daily across the country.
 - Dr. Tam also provided the following statements:
 - “This week marks six months since the World Health Organization (WHO) declared COVID-19 a public health emergency of international concern and Canada announced its first case of COVID-19.”
 - “Worldwide over the past week, the WHO reported an average of over 240,000 new cases and over 6,000 new deaths daily, with the cumulative case count now at over 16.5 million cases, including over 656,000 deaths. COVID-19 has not gone away and the spread of the virus is not under control in many areas of the world. Until the virus is controlled everywhere, life cannot go back to normal anywhere.”
 - “The virus doesn’t care about our past efforts; what matters is what we do now. Understanding the risks, following local public health guidance and taking appropriate precautions can help us make informed decisions to keep us, our families and community safer. You can find resources here to help guide you:”
<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/07/information-and-resources-on-covid-19-epidemiology-and-reducing-your-risks-for-infection-and-spreading-the-virus.html>

This summary was compiled by [CCEM Strategies Ltd.](#) at the request of the 3 Nations Society.

¹⁸ <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/news/2020/07/statement-from-the-chief-public-health-officer-of-canada-on-july-30-2020.html>